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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) TOPIC Military Information from the Altengrabow Troop Training Grounds

REPORT NO.

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 20 May to 14 June 1951

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 27 June 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 14 June 1951, only Soviet Army artillery and AAA units with all types of guns were staying at the Altengrabow (M 53/Z 00) troop training grounds. Three headquarters, each commanded by a general, and with a total of about 16 general staff officers were observed. Numerous high-ranking officers were billeted in the Berg Hotel at Altengrabow. An observation platform was set up on the tower of this hotel. The units at Altengrabow definitely included units from Potsdam, Rathenow and Bernburg. On 10 June, all troops were alerted for one week.

2. The last three large shipments of incoming ammunition were guarded by personnel riding in three coaches. Previously the ammunition shipments had had only routine escorts. The ammunition was unloaded at night.

3. On 20 May, a generals' conference was held in the officers' mess of the camp. Generals rode in sedans.

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4. The Artillerie Kaserne quartered an artillery unit whose equipment included 12 long-barreled 152-mm guns, 18 howitzers of about 150-mm and an undetermined number of vehicles with numbers of the

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5. The hutment quartered AAA units. Tents had been pitched between wooden barracks. An artillery unit bivouacked in tents in the patch of woods south of the ammunition dump. Other artillery units bivouacking in tents were observed in the Krachholz woods, in the area north of the Wiese Hill, in the village of Gleune, in the so-called Briesenthaler Busch, in Rosenkrug and on Weinberg.

6. Vehicles which picked up ration supplies at the ration supply depot in Altengrabow were numbered:

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25X1A * [REDACTED] high-ranking officers of the Hq GOF and the IV Arty Corps attended the generals' conference. 25X1C

** [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] belong to the unidentified AI Arty Brig, possibly the 3d Gds, of the LXIX Mtz Rifle Corps. The 150-mm artillery pieces observed in conjunction with these series are believed to belong to components of the IV Arty Corps from Potsdam or Rathenow, because of their large caliber, rather than to the aforementioned brigade.

25X1A *** [REDACTED] Comment. The information shows that the units, concentrated at Altengrabow for summer firing practice, are quartered in the northern portion of the range, with the southern portion of the range being available for training. Most of the vehicle numbers reported belong to units from Rathenow, Potsdam, Bernburg and Brandenburg. For the first time, some numbers of the 1st Mecz Div, the 31st AAA Div, the 207th Mtz Rifle Div, the 14th Gds Mecz Div and the 7th Gds Tank Div were reported. It is believed that, as in 1950, elements of the artillery units of all divisions may move to Altengrabow for firing practice during the summer. The movement to Altengrabow of elements of the first three divisions mentioned above was reported in May 1951 and can be considered confirmed by the present report from the range itself.

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